

LANDS APPENDIX

WITHDRAWALS

Revocation for four Bureau of Reclamation withdrawals is recommended in the planning area. Rights-of-way would be issued for existing structures and uses in accordance with the draft Interim Interagency Agreement between the BLM and the Bureau of Reclamation, dated November 1990, and

subsequent revisions. Upon revocation, these public lands will be opened to the public land laws and managed similarly to the adjacent public lands. Acreages not included in these tabulations are lands that have either been sold or acquired by the Bureau of Reclamation, and the withdrawals will be revoked upon completion of the withdrawal review.

TABLE 50
EXISTING WITHDRAWALS

Name	Existing Acreage Withdrawn	Additional Acreage to Withdraw	Continue¹ Existing Withdrawal (Acreage)	Revoke¹ Existing Withdrawal (Acreage)
International Boundary	293.46	0	293.46	0
Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge	24,508.07	0	24,508.07	0
Fox Lake Game Management Area	160.00	0	160.00	0
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife	26.32	0	26.32	0
Lower Yellowstone Project	859.90	0	0	859.90
Fort Buford Project	913.60	0	0	913.60
Public Water Reserve 107 (McCone)	237.53	0	0	237.53
Milk River Project	36.69	0	0	36.69
Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge	290,222.45	0	290,222.45	0
Corps of Engineers Fort Peck	210,732.56	0	3,756.11	206,976.45
Public Water Reserve 107 (Garfield)	160.00	0	0	160.00
Buffalo Rapids Project				
Bureau of Reclamation	113.53	0	0	113.53
Fort Keogh Livestock Experiment Station	9,851.56	0	9,851.56	0
Overlap	(207,176.45)			
Total	330,939.22	0	328,817.97	209,297.70

¹acreages are recommended.

International Boundary

Daniels and Sheridan Counties

This withdrawal affects 158.04 acres of surface and minerals within Daniels County and 135.42 acres within Sheridan County. The purpose of the withdrawal is to establish a buffer zone between the United States and Canada. The withdrawal segregates the lands from all forms of entry, including mineral entry, they are open to lease under the 1920 Mineral Leasing Act. No action regarding revocation or modification is recommended on this withdrawal.

Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge

Sheridan and Roosevelt Counties

This withdrawal affects 22,741.63 acres of subsurface minerals and 994.41 surface acres of public lands within Sheridan County. In Roosevelt County, 1766.44 acres of subsurface minerals and 40 acres of public surface are withdrawn. The withdrawal established the Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge for the purpose of waterfowl protection. The lands are segregated from all forms of entry, including mineral entry; however, they are open to leasing

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under the 1920 Mineral Leasing Act. No modification of this withdrawal is recommended.

Fox Lake Game Management Area Richland County

This withdrawal affects 160 acres in T. 22 N., R. 55 E., Principal Montana Meridian, sec. 10: S1/2NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4. The lands are primarily utilized as wetlands habitat. The lands are closed to entry, including location under the General Mining Law of 1872. Additionally, these lands are closed to oil and gas leasing pursuant to the classification agreement of February 5, 1965. No modification of this withdrawal is recommended.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Waterfowl Production Area Sheridan County

This withdrawal affects 26.32 acres of subsurface minerals and public surface. The land is situated in the extreme northeast corner of Montana, within the Prairie Potholes region. No modification or revocation of this withdrawal is recommended. The withdrawal segregates the lands from all forms of entry, including mineral entry; however, they are open to leasing under the 1920 Mineral Leasing Act.

Lower Yellowstone Project **Bureau of Reclamation** Richland and Dawson Counties

This withdrawal affects 858.71 acres of public land. The lands lie along the Yellowstone River, roughly from Glendive to the mouth of the Yellowstone River in western North Dakota. Several withdrawal actions were enacted between 1903 and 1969 for the project.

A majority of the lands were second form withdrawals, allowing homestead entry subject to specific conditions. Entry, other than by homesteading, was not allowed under the withdrawal. Exact acreages will be determined during the review process. All lands were subsequently open to mineral leasing following the passage of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. It is recommended that 858.71 acres be revoked.

Public Water Reserve 107 McCone County

A total of 237.53 acres of public lands are withdrawn as public water reserves within McCone County. Of this, 200 acres lie within the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge boundary. This withdrawal will be revoked, since reservations of local water sources are no longer needed to

protect public interests. This will open 37.53 acres to public land laws, while the remaining 200 acres will be subject to the conditions of the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge withdrawal.

Milk River Project **Bureau of Reclamation** McCone County

There was a withdrawal of 36.39 acres in McCone County for the Bureau of Reclamation's Milk River Project. This withdrawal was combined for review with the Milk River Project in the Lewistown District. Withdrawal on two parcels is in effect along the Missouri River in McCone County for the projects. One of the withdrawn parcels has been significantly eroded through reliction from the lands initially withdrawn. The withdrawals segregate the lands from entry, including mineral entry under the General Mining Law, but are open for leasing under the 1920 Mineral Leasing Act. Withdrawal review of these lands is being conducted by the Lewistown District as part of the Milk River Project.

The withdrawal is recommended to be revoked.

Fort Buford Project **Bureau of Reclamation**

A withdrawal for the Fort Buford Project along the Yellowstone River is in effect in Dawson and Richland counties. The withdrawal segregated the lands from all forms of entry, including mineral entry, but is open to mineral leasing. There are 913.60 acres of public land under withdrawal.

Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge McCone and Garfield Counties

A total of 290,222.45 acres of public lands are withdrawn in Garfield and McCone counties for refuge purposes. Federal minerals underlying the private surface are subject to the conditions of the withdrawal. The withdrawal segregates the lands from all forms of entry, including mineral entry. Mineral leasing is restricted only to cases involving drainage, and does not permit surface occupancy.

Of the public lands withdrawn, 206,976.45 acres are also included in the Corps of Engineers withdrawal for the Fort Peck Dam. Withdrawal review is presently underway to remove the Corps of Engineers withdrawals, except for locations possessing physical improvements, or lands needed for the operation of the dam and hydroelectric facilities.

Corps of Engineers - Fort Peck Dam

McCone and Garfield Counties

A total of 210,732.56 acres of public lands are withdrawn for the Corps of Engineers. Of these, 206,976.45 acres overlap the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge withdrawal. The withdrawal segregates the land from entry, with the exception of restricted mineral entry for metalliferous mining.

It is recommended that a majority of the lands be relinquished. Those lands utilized for the operation of the dam and hydroelectric facilities will remain under the effect of the withdrawal.

Public Water Reserve 107

Garfield County

A 160-acre public water reserve was withdrawn by a Secretarial Order, dated November 7, 1935. Public water reserves are closed to entry, except mineral entry (hard rock), and are open to oil and gas leasing.

This withdrawal will be revoked, as reservations of local water sources are no longer needed to protect public interests.

Buffalo Rapids Project

Bureau of Reclamation

Dawson and Prairie Counties

A total of 113.53 acres are withdrawn in Prairie and Dawson Counties for the Buffalo Rapids Project. This was a first form withdrawal, closing the land to all forms of entry. Mineral leasing is allowed.

This withdrawal has been recommended for revocation, as there are no physical improvements. Relinquishment will open these lands to operation under existing statutes.

Fort Keogh Livestock Experiment Station

Custer County

The Fort Keogh Livestock Experiment Station was established by an Act of Congress in 1924. Prior to dedication of these lands for livestock research, the lands were reserved as a waterfowl refuge, predated by a military reserve. The lands are withdrawn from all forms of entry, including mineral entry. Mineral leasing is allowed under the terms of the withdrawal. Since the withdrawal was invoked by Congress, revocation can only occur by an Act of Congress. No revocation or modification of this withdrawal is proposed. The withdrawal affects 9,851.56 acres of land north of the Yellowstone River within the planning area.